

# MISSISSKOU STANDARD.

J. M. FERRES, EDITOR.]

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## TERMS.

Ten shillings currency per year, payable at the end of six months. If paid in advance 1s. 3d. will be deducted. If delayed to the close of the year 1s. 3d. will be added for every six months delay. Grain and most kinds of produce taken in payment.

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## SIR ROBERT PEEL'S SPEECH

AT TAMWORTH JAN. 16.

GENTLEMEN.—There are occasions, and this is one of them, on which the manifestations of attachment and confidence on the one part are so marked, and the feelings they excite, on the other, are so strong, that the most natural and unaffected forms of speech are best suited to the expressions of those feelings. I will add nothing therefore, to the simple assurance that I most sincerely and most cordially thank you. (Cheers.) It was a source of deep regret to me that I had not the opportunity previously to the election, of soliciting in person, a renewal of your confidence, and of appearing at the hustings in the face of my constituents, to give an account of my past, and to explain the principles on which my future conduct in Parliament would be regulated. Nothing should have prevented this, but the cause which will be in your eyes a complete justification of my absence—the entire devotion of my time to the despatch of that arrear of official business which had accumulated previously to my arrival in England, and during the period that I was occupied in the formation of the King's government. Gentlemen, the change in my public position since we last met, does not in the least degree alter my desire to give that explanation. These are not the times when public men can affect ministerial reserve, and fancy themselves exempted from the duty of frank communication with those whom they represent. (Cheers.) It is because I am a Minister of the Crown that I court rather than shrink from the opportunity of such communication. It is by the result of public discussion that, as a Minister, I hope to succeed—by dispelling unjust suspicions—by removing unfounded prejudices—by refuting the mis-statements which ignorance or malignity may put forth. (Hear, hear, and cheers)—Into the detail of measures which may be in the contemplation of the King's government, you will not expect me to enter. There can be no motive but a sense of public duty for not entering into it; for scarcely a month will elapse before an explanation must be entered into, in the face of Parliament and of the country. But as to the motives of any public act of mine, and the general principles, on which the government, of which I am a member, will be conducted, I am prepared to give every information that either a friend or an opponent can desire. And first, as to my acceptance of office. The circumstances under which it was proposed to me are too notorious to require any explanation. Had they been less so, this, I trust, is not the place where it would be necessary for me to vindicate myself from the charge of seeking office through any intrigue or secret and unfair hostility towards the late government. (Cheers.)

We advance no claim to public favour on the score of either learning or talents. We come forward to perform a public duty, honestly and fearlessly, to defend the constitution under which we have the happiness to live, and to spread information, in a cheap form, through this section of the Eastern Townships, calculated to counteract the misrepresentations that are at work to deceive the people.

In the business of conducting a newspaper we are novices; but, taking the constitution of the country, the law of the land, and our own portion of general knowledge of men and things, for our guidance, we do not despair.

To look for perfection under any form of government is vain. But the constitution is one thing, and the administration of the government is another. The former may be as faultless as can be devised and accomplished by human wisdom; the latter may partake of the infirmities, ignorance, passions and prejudices of the men who conduct the administration, and in its operation may therefore be good or bad in proportion to the talents and capacity of those who stand at the helm. Hence some abuses are to be expected in the administrations of all governments. It is not our intention to conceal, palliate or defend them, but to point them out wherever found, and by whomsoever practised, with a view to their redress. To this we pledge ourselves; not in the spirit of disaffection, or as seeking the pretext of a grievance, in order to enjoy the gratification of doing out complaints, but in the spirit of free-born subjects of a British king.

In the performance of our duty, and in defence of our principles, as conductors of a loyal and constitutional periodical we will speak out plainly, but not in the language of provocation, scurrility, defiance or personal abuse. We are now before the public. We address ourselves to reasonable men, and have no misgivings of the result.

The current news of the day will be given.

It shall be our endeavour to furnish something useful and instructive, if not entertaining to all classes of the community. Besides what we may glean from periodicals we shall be happy to receive original communications from intelligent farmers, containing such results of their experience in agricultural affairs as may be useful to others.

Education, and the promotion of temperance, will find in us zealous friends.

In short, it is our desire to make our labours useful, and fit to be received into any family; pledging ourselves that our columns will present something calculated to disseminate sound knowledge and promote harmony and good feeling in the community, without being sullied by scurrility, slander, irreligion or immorality.

that Lord Ripon, that Sir James Graham, that Lord Grey had retired from it; that, lastly, Lord Althorp had retired; that the key-stone of the arch had fallen, but still your Majesty was bound to adhere to the shattered fabric that remained. What Lord Stanley may do, what Lord Grey may do, what all the eminent men who have left your service may do, you, the King of England cannot do. (Cheers.) Your discretion is fettered, you must continue your confidence to those from whom their colleagues have withdrawn their co-operation. I can give you no assistance, no advice, but to supplicate Lord Melbourne and his colleagues to return. (Laughter, and cries of "hear, hear.") If I had thus addressed the King, I might indeed have escaped responsibility; but, believe me, the last place in which I would have shown my face would have been in the society of spirited and loyal gentlemen. (Cheers.) Of the King's late government, or any member of it, I say nothing disrespectful or disparaging. If I were inclined to disparage them, I would not do it in their absence; but I am not so inclined. When they were in power, I never joined in the abuse by which they were assailed by the very men who are now the loudest in lamenting their fall. (Cheers.)

My first act, on entering the King's service, was earnestly to advise his majesty to form his government on a basis as wide and comprehensive as was consistent with the principles and honor of public men, and with that view, to allow me to seek the co-operation of Lord Stanley, and of those who had acted in concurrence with him. I sought that co-operation, feeling, in the situation in which I was placed, a paramount obligation to make the appeal, but perfectly admitting that there was not a corresponding obligation on the part of Lord Stanley to accept the proposal, and feeling assured that whatever might be his decision, it would be dictated by a high sense of public duty, and that alone. Lord Stanley declined the offer, making no declarations to me which were not in precise correspondence with his public addresses to his constituents, and confirming the impression, under which I made the offer, that his course in public life, whether in or out of office, would be governed by the highest and purest motives. Falling in my effort to procure the assistance of Lord Stanley, I proceeded, in the best manner I could, to execute the commission with which the king had honored me. The basis on which the government was formed was of course less extensive than I wished; but the men to whom I proposed office were men in whose integrity, in whose experience, in whose ability I had the highest confidence, and whose views of the public policy, which it is fitting for the king's government to pursue, I ascertained to be in conformity with my own. (Cheers.) I had not to balance in the cabinet one set of conflicting opinions against another. I was not embarrassed with this or that man's personal pretensions, or the rival interests of this or that section of a party. I found but one predominant feeling among the high minded and honorable men with whom I was connected—an earnest desire on the part of each to do that which might be deemed best for the public service, by undertaking office, or withdrawing any claim for it. It is said, however, that the government has not now the confidence of the public—that the members who compose it are obnoxious to the people.

Now, who are those who have recently entered the king's service, and in whom the people are said to have no confidence? The member who sat in the late Parliament for Essex, the member for Kent, for the county of Montgomery, for the county of Perth, for the county of Nottingham, for Wilshire, for Cumberland, for Dorsetshire, for the counties of Tyrone, and Down, and Sligo, have accepted office, and have made an appeal to their constituents, the result of which a short time will determine. The member for Exeter, for Northampton, for Norwich, for Yarmouth, for Leeds, has been returned to Parliament, each since his acceptance of office.—Have Hull, and Liverpool, and Bristol marked their disapprobation of the principles of these several counties and towns—constituencies existing under the reformed Bills?—and judge whether the men who represent them are to be denounced as persons unworthy of the confidence of the people. (Great cheering.) But the truth is, that there never was an assumption more gratuitous and more arrogant than that of those who undertake to answer for the opinion and to claim for themselves the authority of the people of England. (Cheers.) Every little knot of angry politicians speaks in the name of the people. They remind one of the story of Mr. Sheridan, that three tailors met in Tooley street, to petition Parliament and headed their petition, "We, the people of England." Laughter and cheers.... They begin by excluding from their definition of the people, the nobility, the clergy, the magistracy, the landed proprietor; they assume that between those classes, and the class which constitutes, in their sense of the term, the people, there is no community of interest or feeling, and that in the class so constituting the people, there is perfect unanimity. (Hear, hear.)

I am told that I am not a Reformer, and that if I become a Reformer, I must be an apostate. Now, before I determine whether I am a Reformer or not, I must have a definition of the term. I see some men, who call themselves Reformers, who throw the greatest obstructions in the way of real reform; who consume the public time in useless motions; who make speeches for mere display; who condemn everything as wrong, and set nothing right; who soar above the vulgar task of devising practical remedies themselves, and leave no time to others to devise them. [Hear, hear.] They denounce you as the defender of all abuse if you do not adopt their definition of abuse. One gentleman thinks the Legislative Union an abuse; another thinks the Church of England an abuse; another insists on vote by ballot; another on expelling the Bishops from the House of Lords. I voted against all their propositions on these subjects, which were submitted to a vote; and if this be the test of an anti-Reformer, and a patron of abuse, I must be condemned as such, but I must be condemned in company with Lord Althorp and Lord John Russell, who voted as I did. [Loud cheers.] I shall continue to take the same course, shall claim for myself the right to form my own judgment, neither taking it for granted that that must be an abuse which any one may please to call an abuse; nor deterred from applying a remedy for the fear of being charged with apostasy. An apostate indeed! Why, I have done more in the cause of substantial and permanent improvement than nine tenths of those who call themselves Reformers. Who can justly charge me with the dereliction of any principle, supposing I do enforce economy, reduce unnecessary offices, facilitate commercial enterprise, or remove impediments from the course of justice? Did I lend a cold and lukewarm support to the alterations in our commercial policy? Was the Duke of Wellington's government an enemy to retrenchment? Hear the testimony of an avowed and decided opponent of the government, one of the late ministers—Lord Palmerston. In speaking at this very election to his constituents, after claiming the credit for economy for his own colleagues, to which I must say they were justly entitled, and mentioning the extent to which they had reduced expenditure and taxation, he adds: "This, it would be allowed, was doing a great deal in the way of reduction, considering they had succeeded a government which he would do it the justice to say, had labored hard and efficiently in the work of economy and retrenchment." [Cheers.] Then as to the law, hear again the testimony of another of the late ministers, from whom I have differed in public life, but who did not withhold, on account of the difference, the honorable testimony of his applause to the course I pursued in respect to legal reform.

In the year 1827, Sir John Hollohouse then member for Westminster, made a few observations in the House of Commons: "There was a habit which prevailed in the city [Westminster, which he had the honor to represent] in obedience to which the representatives were obliged annually to appear before the represented, to convey an account of their proceedings, and to receive such instructions with respect to their future conduct, as the circumstances of the times rendered expedient. Upon these occasions it had been usual to hold forth to their imitation such men as we considered models with regard to conduct; and he hoped it would be considered neither foolish nor improper to say, upon the present occasion, that at those times the name of the right hon. gentleman had been always declared entitled to rank amongst those of the benefactors of mankind. (The Chancellor of the Exchequer here seemed to laugh.) The Chancellor continued the right hon. gentleman, may smile, but although there may be prejudices of another description, they looked only on the great reformer of great abuses, and, as such, considered him entitled to the gratitude of the country." (Cheers.) Why do I refer to these things? Why do I appeal to the testimony thus given by competent and disinterested judges? For the purpose of showing that I can promote economy and correct acknowledged abuses, and that without a dereliction of principle. My judgment of what constitutes an abuse may, and probably will, differ from that of many who require alterations in the law and institutions of this country. I may sometimes doubt whether that is abuse which is so designated. I may sometimes doubt whether the evil of the remedy is not greater than that of the disease. If I entertain that opinion, I will avoid it, in spite of its temporary unpopularity; but I shall approach the consideration of an alleged abuse with a firm belief, if the allegation be true, a government gains ten times more strength by correcting an admitted evil, than they could by maintaining it, if it were possible to maintain it. (Cheers.)

Notwithstanding all the ominous predictions of our inability to carry on the government, I own to you that I do entertain the greatest confidence that these predictions will not be verified, (cheers,) and that the representatives of the country will not refuse to give to the king's ministers a fair trial. (Great cheering.) A few weeks only can elapse before the experiment will be made. I am not alarmed at the lists which are published, dividing the members of Parliament into "Conservatives," and "Reformers." I cannot but think that many of those who are classed as Reformers entertain opinions not far different from my own; and every hour that passes will, I doubt not, increase the disposition to take a calmer view of the principles upon which we propose to act. (Cheers.) If the public and the representatives of this country are convinced that we are desirous of maintaining our national institutions and of improving them, with a view to their maintenance, I do not believe that they will lend themselves to any factional opposition to the king's government. (Great cheering.) The people of England are anxious, I believe, to preserve in their full integrity, the prerogative of their ancient monarchy, (cheering) they are anxious to maintain the free and independent action of every branch of the Legislature; they are anxious to maintain the Church and its connexion with the state, less for any civil or secular object, than because they believe the maintenance of the Established Church to be the best security for the maintenance of that faith which they profess, and the surest bulwark against inidelity on the one hand, and fanaticism on the other. They will support the church on high grounds of religious feeling and principle, in which, even many who do not conform to all the doctrines of the church, may cordially and zealously concur. This object, I, for one am determined to maintain. (Rapturous applause.) But it is quite consistent with the object to relieve any real grievance, and to remove any civil disadvantage, under which those who do not concur in the doctrines of the Established Church may labor. My opinion is that, with that course, coupled with a sincere desire to promote rational and well matured improvement, the people of England will be content; nay more, that of that course they will cordially approve. As for myself, whatever may be the result, I regard it without any feelings of anxiety or apprehension; I have no object of personal ambition to gratify, and whatever else I may lose I cannot lose the consolation of having acted on a sense of public duty at a period of great difficulty. If I succeed, I shall have the satisfaction of thinking that I have succeeded against great obstacles and amid the most confident predictions of failure. I believe that I shall succeed. (Thunder of applause.) I have that confidence in the success of good intentions; that I believe that a majority of the representatives of England will be satisfied with the measures which I shall propose, and that they will lend their support and cooperation in carrying them into effect. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, if I am mistaken—if, after having exerted myself to the utmost in that great cause, in which I am engaged—if, having nothing to upbraid myself with, I shall, notwithstanding fail—then, I do assure you, so far as my personal feelings are concerned, I shall relinquish the powers, emoluments, and distinction of office with any feelings rather than those of mortification and regret. (Great cheering.) I shall find ample compensation for the loss of office; I shall return to pursuits as congenial to my taste and feelings as the cares and labors of office; I shall feel the full force of the sentiments which are applied by the poet to the hardy native of the Alpine region—

"As the loud torrent and the whirlwind's roar  
But bind him to his native mountains more!"  
So shall I feel that the angry contentions and collisions of political life will bind me the more to this place, not indeed the place of my nativity,—by every early recollection and association, and by the formation of those first friendships which have remained uninterrupted to this hour. I shall return here, to do what good I can in a more limited sphere, and with humbler powers of action, to encourage local improvements, to enjoy the opportunities of friendly intercourse, and to unite with you in promoting good fellowship, and a spirit of conciliation and mutual good will in that society to the bosom of which I shall return.

The Right Hon. Baronet sat down amidst most rapturous cheering, which subsided only for an instant, to be renewed again and again with increased ardor, until the enthusiasm of the company had afforded itself the utmost gratification.

Sometimes there are living beings in nature as beautiful as in romance. Reality surpasses imagination; and we see breathing, brightening and moving before our eyes, sights dearer to our hearts than any we ever beheld in the land of sleep.

A great woman not imperious, a fair woman not vain, a woman of common talents not jealous, an accomplished woman who scorns to shine—are four wonders just great enough to be divided among the four quarters of the globe.

Those who feel most deeply, are most given to disguise their feelings; and desirous is never so agonizing as when it pounds on the wanderings of misguided sensibility.

## THE STANDARD.

[The Editor with thanks acknowledges the receipt of the following, and of the Thistle seeds enclosed.]

### HUZZA FOR THE THISTLE SAE GREEN.

AIR—"The Campbells are coming."

Huzza! huzza! for the thistle sae green,  
Huzza! huzza! for the thistle sae green, [gathered]  
The broom and the heather while blooming thro',  
So sweetly we'll twine round the thistle sae green.  
Huzza, &c.

The sweet heather bell on the mountain is seen,  
The claymore is flashing sae bright and sae keen,  
The pibroch is sounding, the roebuck is bounding,  
Where Scotland is waving the thistle sae green.  
Huzza, &c.

When bonny young simmer is just in her teens,  
The lark at the dawn, and the blackbird at e'en  
Where blows the sweet' gowan, the clear burnie  
Runnin',  
How charming the land o' the thistle sae green.  
Huzza, &c.

'Mang a' the sweet flowers o' the garden an'  
green,  
The broad spreading thistle maun aye be the  
queen.  
The fair field of story, the bright field of glory,  
How sweetly they're decked with the thistle  
sae green.  
Huzza, &c.

Where'er in that emblem auld Scotland is seen—  
Aye dear to our bosom, though far from our  
e'en—  
Should liberty call us, a Bruce and a Wallace,  
She'll find in the sons o' the thistle sae green.  
Huzza, &c.

No. 1  
For the Missiskoui Standard.

MR. ENROR—SIR:

I know not what sort of paper you are to conduct, but I know that, from the title you have assumed, it ought to be something very excellent. The Missiskoui Standard—this sounds well. If I mistake not, standard is always taken in a good sense. When it is not used in a military sense, (an acceptance which I suppose you will disclaim) it should convey the idea of a test by which the nature, qualities and properties of other things are to be tried and determined.

Chiefly intending to furnish your readers with correct ideas, from time to time, of the constitution of government under which we live, and of the duties that arise out of the same, and become obligatory upon us as subjects, truth must, necessarily, in all things, be your standard. Keeping this in view as the test of your principles and opinions, you will be an acquisition to every lover of truth.

The state of opinion among our good people in the Townships at the present time, on political questions, is such as to make it desirable that we had a standard, of a true and sterling character, by which principles, complaints, grievances, and declamations might be tried. But whether your periodical will become a standard, is probably more to be desired than really expected. Men are now as they ever have been, and always will be, ruled by names. And when a portent gives way in any new course, or in pursuit of any new phantom, it is astonishing how small a consideration, and how silly an argument it requires to make strong impressions on the mind, and to draw in its train multitudes of mankind! Were you to propose new things, you might expect to have admirers in abundance. With a little invention your task would be easy; requiring only to vituperate all that are in authority, for their mal administration of public affairs, and to set forth, with a bold hand, how much better we should be, if existing governments were to give place to other systems, and to other men, yet unknown and untried.

You have done well to issue a prospectus that seems to disclaim the language of ambiguity and uncertainty. Understanding it as I do, you have no door for backing out. You can take no advantage of the veering of the wind. Truth must be your standard, in every attempt to advocate the constitution, and to incite the duty of loyalty. In the path you have chosen to tread, you have undertaken a service which, I trust, will be acceptable to many; and while truth will be your guide, I also fervently hope that your manner, language, arguments and treatment of your fellow subjects will be far removed from that poor conceit which supposes that petulance, sarcasm, wrestling language from its evident meaning to serve a turn, and falsehood, are ample demonstration of transcendent talents. "The truth endureth and is always strong; it liveth and conquereth forever more. With her there is no casting of persons or rewards; but she decrieth the things that are just, and refraineth from all unjust and wicked things; and all men do well like of her works. Neither in her judgment is any unrighteousness; and she is the strength, kingdom, power, and majesty of all ages. Great is truth and mighty above all things." To this ancient encouement on truth, I need not add that she despises the alliance of her contrary vice, which, if she did not, would involve a contradiction in terms. The co-operation of sophistry, defamation and gall, she scorns. She is herself strong; and the dress she likes best is simplicity, straight forwardness, and the modesty of reason.

Attempts have been made, and are now in operation, to spread disaffection to the government among the hitherto peaceable and contented inhabitants of the townships, but, in my opinion, they must fail. They have no ground to work upon. Political discussions are, in a great measure, to us, new; and though a few may be persuaded that they have serious cause for complaint, the great body of the people is undoubtedly sound. We cannot be otherwise than sound in our attachment to the government; for the interests of all the inhabitants of the Townships are one and the same. We cannot, without being blindfolded, make common cause with the leaders of the house of assembly, because they aim at the constitution

which it is our interest to support. Suppose that they shall succeed in their views against the government, and effect either a change that shall make it elective in all, or most of the administration, or a separation from the mother country, what benefits can we expect from the one or the other of these changes? They are a people different and distinct from us in language, customs, feelings, prejudices, habits and literature; and were they to succeed in their views, would they admit us to a full share of their acquisitions? With them we have never yet held any thing in common, nor they with us, except our duty of allegiance to the king, and submission to the laws. We are a people, by ourselves, and though we always have united with them in the relation of fellow subjects, under one common head, yet, remove this bond of union, let them become our masters, and the inhabitants of the Townships will immediately learn to their cost that they are a different people for whom their fellow subjects of a French origin have no sympathy. This is a fact. The Townships ought, and must be united among themselves. They should convince the supporters of the 92 resolutions that they can think for themselves, and have no idea of assisting them to conquer a kingdom for themselves; from which we should undoubtedly be expelled, or if allowed to remain, be treated as Helots. S. D.

To the Editor of the Missiskoui Standard,

SIR:

Is it not a grievance and worthy of severe reprehension, that the sheriff should send one of his deputies from Montreal to dispose of real or personal property in this section of country, when he has several deputies residing in the immediate neighborhood of the sale? All of his bailiffs are equally responsible to the public, and are presumed to know their duty equally well, whether residing in town or country; and why should the poor defendant be compelled to pay the extra expense of travel from Montreal to this place? It must arise from favoritism or some other cause closely assimilated to it. You cannot do a better service to the public (in my humble opinion) than to expose in severe terms the present practice of sending bailiffs from town to transact the business in this section of country.

I am yours. R.

For the Missiskoui Standard.

### THINGS I LIKE TO SEE.

I like to see a man neglect the payment of an honest debt till the bailiff kindly notifies him he will arrange the matter for him; because this shews his willingness to let all trades live; and moreover, that he will soon be among that class who "owe no man anything,"—because no man will trust him.

I like to see a man always the first at the tavern in the morning, and the last to leave it at night; for this shews that he has a watchful eye over the morals of the community, and would be a useful man in beginning a re-form.

I like to find a temperance society man smeling like a cider mill; for this shews that he is using mighty effort not to want rum, and like an honest man lives up to his written pledge.

I like to see a man minding every body's business but his own; for this shews him to be a philanthropic man—a man of "good nature"—who sins not in neglecting his family for the public, for he seeks the greater good of a greater number.

I like to see a man stop suddenly and become very busy in "driving a hot sixpence into the corner of his pocket," or in cutting his nails, near two persons engaged in private conversation; for this shews him to be more attentive to his own personal matters than to what is going on about him—or, he is unquestionably an absent minded man.

I like to see a man on going into a mechanic's shop fearlessly handling all the tools; for this tells you at once that he "knows a thing or two;" and is "up to" contending for the palm of inquisitiveness even with his grandmother.

I like to see a man eager to examine every piece of manuscript, and to look at every book which he may see others engaged with, for this shews a desire for learning—or that he has not yet lost all the fresh feelings of boyhood, nor become trammeled by the rules of good breeding which fetter society.

I like to see a young man hanging about the taverns and stores, ready to catch at small jobs; for this shews that he is not high minded—that he is ready to fill a necessary niche in the world—and, like the cock of a cedar barrel, turn under every one's thumb.

I like to hear a young man spouting politics in the barroom; for this shews that his business is not urgent elsewhere; and that any monkey can make a cat's paw—that is—a shrewd politician can in him find a useful tool.

OLD PHILIP.

April 15, 1825.

FROM ENGLAND.

The parliament of Great Britain was opened on the 19th of February. The house of commons immediately proceeded to elect a speaker. Sir C. M. Sutton and the right hon. James Abercromby were proposed, and after some debate the latter was chosen. The numbers were,

For Mr. Abercromby,  
For Sir C. M. Sutton,

Majority for Mr. Abercromby, 13

On February 24th, his Majesty proceeded in state to the house of peers, and delivered his speech to the lords and commoners. It expressed his Majesty's regret at the destruction by fire of the buildings appropriated to the use of the two houses of parliament; the usual assurances of amity from foreign powers—the civil war in

Spain being the only exception to the tranquility of Europe,—and the relation between Holland and Belgium remaining unsettled. Taxes on landed property are recommended to be lessened and distributed over other descriptions of property. The thistle question in Ireland will come early before parliament, as also commutation of tithes in England, and the subjects of civil and ecclesiastical jurisprudence. Commissioners have been appointed in reference to the revenues of the church, and more equal distribution of episcopal duties, and the residence of the clergy on their benefices. The condition of the church of Scotland will also be considered.

In the house of lords the customary address in reply to the King, and which was of course a mere echo to his speech, was moved by earl Hardwicke, and seconded by viscount Gage. Lord Melbourne opposed the proposition, and moved an amendment. The amendment, after some discussion, was rejected without a division, and the original address adopted.

In the common address was moved by lord Sandon: an amendment was moved by lord Merton, which, after considerable debate, was carried; the numbers being—

For amendment, 309

For original address, 362

Majority for amendment, 7

In the house of commons March 9th, a long debate took place on the presentation by Mr. Robinson of a petition of members of the legislative council and members of the assembly in Lower Canada, complaining of certain grievances. The petition was presented and read with the consent of sir Robert Peel.

Mr. Roebuck rose, but the hon. member addressed the house in so low a tone of voice, that only an occasional sentence here and there tho' his observations was audible. He was understood to say that the petition which he had the honor to present was from certain members of the legislative council and house of assembly of Lower Canada, and that it complained of grievances. This petition was one of very great importance, and he would not conceal from the house or the government the fact that unless some attention were speedily paid to their call for redress, these petitioners meant to adopt violent measures for obtaining justice. As well as we could catch what fell from the hon. gentleman he proceeded to insist that through the whole of its proceedings, either as relating to its own government or the questions at issue between them and this country, the people of Canada clearly showed that they were governed by a spirit truly English. It was not fair to taunt them with factious or republican views, and to charge them with having ulterior objects, because they sought to obtain a perfect control over their own funds. This principle, though it was for a long time combated here, and resisted by the governor there, was at length admitted on all hands; and such an admission having been made, the principle having been established, it was but fair (as we understood the hon. gentleman,) that no opposition should be given to insist that through the whole of its proceedings, either as relating to its own government or the questions at issue between them and this country, the people of Canada clearly showed that they were governed by a spirit truly English. It was not fair to taunt them with factious or republican views, and to charge them with having ulterior objects, because they sought to obtain a perfect control over their own funds. 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of the real state of the case being made to us, to remove what is justly obnoxious, and in their place to propose those measures which we believe to be consistent with justice to the parties concerned and with sound policy as regards the general interest of the country. (Cheers.) Under these circumstances I think the house will feel that I take the most prudent course in declining to enter further in the subject at present, and I at the same time hope they will agree with me in the opinion that the course most likely to bring about an amicable settlement of the dispute is that which his majesty's government have adopted. We do not mean to disregard the petitions of the Canadian population, but we mean to appeal to their sense of reason and justice; and we firmly believe that our appeal will prove successful. We will give their claims every just consideration; but at the same time I am bound distinctly to state we do not mean to declare any new principle of government in the colonies. (Hear, hear.) Our object is to see of what it is the Canadian people complain and then to see to what extent those complaints are founded in justice. If we find they are not founded in justice, our aim shall be to prevent their continued and useless agitation; but if, on the contrary, we find they are founded on justice, we shall apply ourselves in a spirit of conciliation, and without regard to the epithets of contumacy and insult previously heaped upon us, to their permanent and satisfactory removal. (Loud cheers.) Having stated thus clearly what is the course we have resolved upon pursuing in reference to this question, I beg to assure the house I shall not occupy their attention by any comment upon the numerous and unimportant topics introduced by the hon. member for Bath into his speech. One word, however, a sense of justice compels me to say in defence of the noble lord, the member for north Lancashire, whose conduct has been so unjustifiably attacked by the hon. member who originated this discussion. Sir, I do not believe that the conduct of any minister of this country, or any public man, minister or otherwise, was ever exposed to so severe an ordeal as that of the noble lord to whom I allude; and I may further say I doubt any man could go through such an ordeal with more honor or credit to his character than did the noble lord. While a minister of the crown that noble lord went before a committee of the house of commons—a committee indiscriminately chosen—having on its list many members adverse to the policy of the government with which he was connected—a committee as fair a representative of the average opinions of that house as could possibly be selected—a committee as fully the representative of the interests of the Canadian body as of the British party in Canada—before such committee the noble lord went, and after producing to them every document, public or private his office contained, left it to them to judge whether the complaints bro't against him were founded in justice or otherwise. Sir, I repeat I know of no example of a minister having taken such a course, passing through the ordeal so honorably to himself and to his character, as did the noble lord. (Loud cheers.) As far, therefore, as the accusation of the hon. member for Bath is concerned, I think the noble lord will best consult his own dignity by treating it with indignation or rather contemptuous silence. I would here, sir, cease to occupy the attention of the house were it not that there occurs to me one other point in the hon. member for Bath's speech, which I do not think I ought to pass over without notice. The hon. member has been pleased to threaten us that unless every thing the Canadians ask for is granted them, they are determined upon rebellion. Tho' e, I think, were the expressions of the hon. and learned member. He also undertook to assure us that thirteen millions inhabitants of the United States of America, a country with which Great Britain at this moment enjoys the profoundest amity, a country with which Great Britain is almost daily interchanging expressions of most friendly feeling, a country with which Great Britain has scarcely a subject of difference—their old jealousies being now removed, and each, conscious that the prosperity of the other must influence its own prosperity, reciprocally desiring that peace, tranquility and good order might flourish in the other, such, sir, being the state of the countries, the hon. gentleman thinks it fit to declare that it is a rebellion shortly out in Canada, the whole of the United States are prepared to interfere in our domestic quarrels, and join these rebellious Canadians. Now, sir, I will not do the United States the injustice to believe, even for a moment, that they or any on their behalf could have authorized the hon. and learned member to make such a declaration within the walls of the British house of commons. I have too high an opinion of their justice and integrity; but even if that opinion were wanting, I entertain such a sense of their shrewdness, common sense, and discretion, that I cannot believe they would select as their organ in this house the hon. member who has thought proper to represent himself in that capacity. (Cheers and great laughter.) With respect to his declaration of the intentions of the Canadians I have also a word to say. I think, sir, it is far better for me, instead of being exasperated by the language of the hon. and learned member, to be pleased to put, as it were, into the mouths of the Canadian party, of whom he says he is the representative, and instead of demeaning myself by retorting equally hard words and unworthy expressions, simply and in the plainest language to state, that I both hope and trust the hon. gentleman has had no authority from that party to tell the British house of commons that unless all their demands are acceded to they will have recourse to rebellion. Indeed, sir, painful as the alternative would be, I would be rather inclined to believe that for the moment—I say, sir, only for the moment—the wisdom and discretion for which the hon. and learned gentleman is so remarkable, forbids him, to suppose that he gave us a correct report of the intentions of his— as he has been pleased to term them—constituents. But if on the other hand it should turn out that his information is correct—if it be true that the Canadian people or any part of them have instructed the hon. member to act in the capacity of their minister of war, and to declare to the British parliament that they are prepared to rebel if all their demands are not acceded to—I, as minister of the British government, will meet them, not with any counter declaration of hostility, but, with the hand of peace and friendship grasping theirs. I will say to them, "Still we intend to do you justice—still, notwithstanding we derive from your meanness a fresh source of strength—although by your threats you arm us with fresh means of arousing public opinion on our side—and although by your unfounded accusations which in the end will recoil on yourselves, and give us the strength to disregard your vaunting, you induce a fresh conviction of your injustice and intemperance, we are determined to go on unflinchingly in the cause we have set out on; and, by removing all fair ground for complaint, take off you even the pretence for asserting that his majesty's colonial subjects do not meet from the British government that consideration and attention to which they are entitled."

After some farther light debate, in which Mr. Hume, Mr. Labanche, Mr. Roebuck, and Sir R. Peel took part, the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Sir Charles Manners Sutton having lost

his election as Speaker, has been raised

to the peerage, under the title of Baron

Pottsworth and Viscount Canterbury.

The London Mortality Bill shows, of

persons christened—males, 13,601; females,

13,615. Total 27,316. Burials—males,

10,811; females, 10,838. Total, 21,679.

Decrease of reported burials in 1834, 4,493.

MISSISSKOU STANDARD.

FREELIGHSBURG, APRIL 21, 1835.

From an extra of the Montreal Herald, we have made extracts, from which will be seen the utter hopelessness of the revolutionists' succeeding in their chimera demand for an elective legislative council. "No new principle of government shall be introduced," says Sir R. Peel; and this establishes one of the grand objects, for which the constitutionalists are contending. A reform of abuses we have pledged ourselves to support, and circumstances have so placed us, that we cannot follow up our pledge, without at the same time supporting the liberal intentions of his majesty's government. But will the present administration fulfil its promises of reforming, where reforming is necessary? Look to the public acts of the duke of Wellington's administration. The duke himself was the man who first began measures of reform in England. He caused the abolition of the Test and Corporation oaths; with the assistance of the present Premier, he carried the Catholic emancipation Bill. The principles of the Tories, for several years previous to the duke's resignation, have been those of reform. From 1815 to 1830, they paid off 60,000,000 pounds of the national debt, and made reduction of taxes to the amount of 35,000,000 pounds; when the duke went out of office, in the latter part of 1830, he left to his successors a clear surplus of 2,000,000 pounds, but this sum, with 1,200,000 pounds in addition, was spent by the Whigs, within fifteen months after their accession to power. These are facts—and they bear witness to the desire expressed by Sir Robert Peel, of yielding a fair—a rational reform.

What course may be adopted by the commissioners to be sent to Canada, we of course cannot yet divine;—but now is the time for the Townships to insist on a fair division into counties. Every town in every county in this section of Canada, ought to get up petitions for procuring a division, which shall have a prospective view to the increasing population of the townships. The commissioner, doubtless, will have ample power to entertain all causes of complaint, and none is so evident as that of the unjust division of these townships. If the English population of East Canada wish ever to have the privilege of being heard in the house of assembly, this is the time to demand it. The County of Mississkou is, perhaps, the only one, that has reason to be satisfied; but it is not for us to look calmly on, while the general interest of our country is to be hindered, or promoted. Let us sink the petty quarrels that the revolutionists have endeavored to spread among us, and unite one and all, with heart and hand, for our mutual benefit. Although some of our brethren of the press have not yet made any great declarations of patriotism, nor shewn any marked favor for the parts in which they have established themselves, yet we are willing to give them credit for love of country, and for that desire of the improvement of the Townships which they ought to possess—let them testify these qualities by a firm, unflinching support of what we now advise. In a short time, perhaps, our enemies might hesitate to insult us, on the floor of the house of Assembly, by telling us that it is inconsistent with the "honor and dignity of that house, to receive petitions from a loyal county in the Townships.

**FELON'S COUNSEL BILL.**—This bill has passed both houses, but is reserved for his Majesty's pleasure. As the law stands at present, counsel have not the privilege of addressing the jury in criminal cases: by the proposed bill this privilege is granted them. We have great doubts as to the benefit to the accused anticipated by this bill, if it shall pass into a law. We do not see what business men, who are to decide simply on the fact, have with the statements of counsel, even although these statements should be confined to simple and non-sophistical deductions from the evidence. The jury is composed of men, who are supposed, from education and intelligence, to be able so to unite the different parts of the evidence, as to draw deductions for themselves, by which to determine the innocence or guilt of the accused. But if "the enlightened state of this country" demand this, at best questionable privilege, we think that the bill does not sufficiently provide means for procuring the benefit of it to the prisoner. We ourselves have not so high an opinion of the enlightened state of this country, nor one so low of the wisdom of our ancestors as certain visionaries in this province entertain; yet if we really believed that the proposed enactment were for the furtherance of justice, we would strenuously support it. Every man is supposed to be innocent until he is found guilty; and if the innocence of a prisoner is made evident to the satisfaction of his peers, the prisoner cannot be detained; but if his guilt, on the other hand, is satisfactorily established, we do not see how the ends of justice are to be promoted, by his being discharged. Again the crown can always command the highest talent in the country, while the accused can have the aid only of inferior talents; this gives the crown a dangerous superiority over the prisoner.

In the course of the debates in the council allusion was made to the practice in Scotland where counsel are allowed to address the jury—but in that country the expense of employing counsel, (if we remember rightly) is defrayed by the ROGUE TAX, levied in the county in which the prisoner may have been apprehended, and not by the poor prisoner himself. We are not aware that the present bill provides for the payment of the counsel out of any public fund; and the case of the prisoner is left to be undertaken by a senior member of the bar—from charity—or by a junior

member from charity and an ambition to signalize himself.

It is to be remembered, too, that in Canada it too often happens that a majority of the jurors empanneled can neither read nor write; and this consideration alone ought to make "enlightened" legislators pause before they give up the life of a human being to the passions of an uneducated jury; for a body of men without education will decide rather from their passions, if these are excited, than from their reason.

A bill of the same nature has been several times agitated in the house of commons, and last year a committee was appointed to investigate the subject, but nothing has yet been reported. This shews that in the most "enlightened" country in the world it is matter of doubt how far the proposed measure may be a benefit to the criminal.

"WHEN THE WINE IS IN, THE WIT IS OUT."—A few revolutionists met over a bottle a short time ago, and after the company had become considerably mellow, Mr. T. S. Brown, inter alia, came out with the following character of the "domineering" party of which he is an honorable supporter.

"We shudder when we read of the combats of gladiators, but those of gladiators were prisoners and criminals. With us a DOMINEERING PARTY shoulders not at dividing brethren, and after furnishing them with weapons to point at each others breasts, it looks upon the amanuensis it has created with a savage delight, more horrible than that of the Romans in their amphitheatres."

In the above elegant quotation, we think by "Domineering party," he means the grand agitator alone—elegantly adopting a figure of rhetoric—granted to all wine bibbing orators and poets—by which a part is put for the whole; for we cannot believe that any gentleman, except very tipsy one, would like to speak of himself as a unit of such a party. In the same elegant speech from which the above is extracted, Mr. T. S. Brown pompously declared to his intelligent and admiring hearers, that "in China crime is punished and virtue rewarded;" he should also have informed them that Jews abominate pork—or some such equally recondite fact. But omnia non omnes sunt.

Mr. NEILSON, from the Quebec constitutional association, and Mr. WALKER from Montreal, sailed from New York for England on the 16th instant.

For the benefit of subscribers, we shall give from time to time lists of letters lately come to the post office in this village. This will be an especial benefit to Sutton.

LETTERS FOR SUTTON.

Am'l C. Squire.  
Joseph Taylor.  
Stephen Bigelow.

ST. ARMAND.

William Barnes.  
John Odell, care of D. Campbell.  
Daniel Cheney.  
Lot Woodbury.  
Mary Hildreth.

MONTREAL CONSTITUTIONAL MEETING.

Resolutions unanimously adopted at a general meeting of the association, held at the north west buildings, and thence adjourned to the royal theatre, on the 25th day of March, 1835.

The honourable GEORGE MOFFATT in the chair.

**Resolved, 1st.**—That in the opinion of this meeting, it is expedient an agent be now nominated to proceed to England on behalf of this association, for the purpose of laying before his majesty's government and the two houses of the imperial parliament, the petition agreed to by this association, and enforcing the representations contained therein, as well as the resolutions emanating from the public meetings held in this city in the months of November and January last, and for co-operation with John Neilson esq., the agent named by the constitutional association of Quebec, in urging the adoption of such measures as may secure to the inhabitants of this province a redress of existing grievances.

**Resolved, 2d.**—That the said agent do also co-operate with any agent who may be appointed on the part of the North American colonial association, to forward the views of this association.

**Resolved, 2d.**—That William WALKER, esq. of this city, on whose integrity and talents the constitutional association of Montreal place full reliance, be requested to proceed to England as such agent, for the purposes stated in the preceding resolutions.

**Resolved, 4th.** That it be referred to the executive committee of this association to determine the amount of remuneration to be awarded to such agent, and that a book of subscription be forthwith opened, to raise an amount sufficient for that object, and to defray other expenses incidental to the mission.

**Resolved, 5th.**—That the executive committee be directed to furnish such documents, information and instructions, for the said agent, as may be requisite for the accomplishment of the purposes by this association, and to correspond with him during his absence.

**Resolved, 6th.**—That the foregoing resolutions be communicated to the Quebec constitutional association, and the different branches in correspondence with this association.

It is intended to open a tunnel under the Danube, to communicate from Perth to Buda. The Count de Szerehy has gone to London to confer with Mr. Brunel, the successful projector and architect of the celebrated Thames Tunnel.

BEAUCHARNOIS CONSTITUTIONAL MEETING.

Pursuant to a notice, signed by many of the most influential freeholders of this country, and generally circulated therein, a public meeting of the freeholders of the county, favorable to the organization of a Constitutional Association, was held in the Episcopal Church of Ormstown, Chateauguay river, seigniory of Beaucharnois, on Monday, the 9th March, current, and was numerously and most respectfully attended.

L. G. Brown, Esquire, was unanimously called to the chair, and R. H. Norval, Esquire, named Secretary.

A committee was then nominated to prepare resolutions, declaratory of the feelings of this meeting—the gentlemen composing it retired, and after mature though short deliberation, returned, and stated that they had adopted a series of resolutions, which would be duly submitted for their approval, by the several gentlemen into whose hands they had been confided.

The chairman addressed the meeting, and, in his usual clear and elegant style, showed the present political state of the province—the urgent necessity of making the same known to the parent state, in order to secure its timely interference to preserve our constitutional rights and privileges—and in no way could this be so effectually attained as by the union of all who desire to retain, inviolate and unimpaired, our invaluable institutions, into constitutional Associations. He was proud to preside over so respectable a meeting, and trusted that good feeling and unanimity would characterize their proceedings. He invited the gentlemen present to express their sentiments on this occasion, and thanked them for their indulgence to himself.

The declaration of the Constitutional Association of Quebec was then read, and the following resolutions unanimously adopted:—

Moved by Lieutenant Colonel John Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas Barlow, jun.,

1. That the political state of this province requires the formation of a Constitutional Association, for the protection of British rights and British interests in the county of Beaucharnois.

Moved by William Bowron, Esquire, seconded by Mr. Trevor Bleakley,

2. That this meeting, considering the declaration of the constitutional association of Quebec as a fair and candid exposition of the political evils under which this province has long suffered, and approving of the object, means and end proposed by that association, do adopt the same.

Moved by Thomas McLeay Gardner, seconded by James Miller, Esquire,

3. That, consequently, the constitutional association of the county of Beaucharnois shall immediately place itself in connexion and zealous co-operation with that of Quebec.

Moved by Jasnes Davidson, Esquire, seconded by Mr. James Adams,

4. That this meeting reprobates, in the strongest terms, the daring and dangerous assumption, by the majority of the house of assembly, of powers altogether unknown to the constitution, and expresses its thorough determination, by all lawful means, to resist such tyrannical usurpation.

Moved by Mr. Robert Robertson, seconded by John Davidson, Esquire,

5. That a series of the most arbitrary and reckless proceedings, on the part of the majority of the house of assembly, clearly evinces a determined spirit altogether to crush British existence in the lower province, and which spirit must, and can only be met, by one equally determined on the part of those of British and Irish origin, not to succumb to a conquered people, whatever its numerical superiority may be—a superiority that Britons have never regarded, when the maintenance of their liberty and dearest rights were at stake.

Moved by John McGibbon, Esquire, seconded by Robert Murray, Esquire,

6. That the general integrity of the British empire, the supremacy of the mother country in this colony, and the invaluable free institutions secured by the constitution, must, at all hazards, be preserved, and, for the preservation and defence of which, the members of this association pledge their lives—at the same time, that they demand, as of right, the protection of the Metropolitan government, that protection to be shown by a prompt and decisive interference, whereby sedition may be put down, the authority of the law asserted, and equal rights secured to all classes, by such a modification of the Act of 31 Geo. III. cap. 31, as shall give a fair share of representation to those of British and Irish origin.

Moved by R. H. Norval, Esquire seconded by William Bowron, Esquire,

7. That this meeting is anxious, from intimate knowledge and close connexion, to do justice to the truly loyal, contented and peaceable disposition of the great mass of the Canadian agricultural population, who, it fearlessly asserts, do not desire those fundamental political changes so loudly and falsely demanded in their name, but whose want of education, and simplicity of character, render them peculiarly susceptible of being drawn by designing demagogues and agitators, into an approval of measures, and a course of action, the consequences of which they neither foresee nor desire.

Moved by R. H. Norval, Esquire seconded by William Bowron, Esquire,

8. That the undersigned, as in default thereof legal measures will be taken to compel payment.

S. P. LALANNE, Deputy Register,  
Mississauga County Registry Office,  
Freelighsbury, April 15th, 1835.

THE REVOLUTIONS OF COMETS.—The

revolutions of some comets are completed in much less time than a few years since, was supposed; the comet of 1632, whose period is 75 years, was termed by Dr. Halley "the Mercury of comets." The following are some of the most remarkable; the comets of Encke, Biela, and Halley are the only three whose returns have been satisfactorily verified: Comet of Encke, 3 1/2 years; comet of Biela, 6 1/2 years; comet of Halley, 75 or 76 years (this comet is expected to return the latter end of the year 1835); comet of 1680, 576 years; second comet of 181, 875 years; comet of 1769, 920 years; comet of 1807, 1713 years; first comet of 1811, 3383 years; and comet of 1763, 7334 years. Though vast to the finite mind, the numbers, periods, and distances of comets, what are they but a drop in the ocean of infinity! a point in the abyss of eternal duration! What are thousands of years and millions of wandering bodies, but the duration of the splendor of a dew drop before it is exhausted! There is a time for all these movements in the countless ages of eternity, and there is a space for all these revolutions in the ample dominions of the universe of God.—*Literary Gazette.*

It is generally rumoured that the members of the assembly, of Quebec, had a convention a few days ago, and that they decided upon sending Mr. Papineau to London, who, they conceive, originated the present claims of the party, and is therefore bound to defend them. It is reported that in Montreal his mission is much objected to. It might not be advisable that he should be absent from the expected early session of the legislature, as no Speaker could fill the chair so well; but if he went to London, he might call upon Mr. Robinson, M. P., the escroc (swindler,) for satisfaction; his comrade lord Stanley and the House of Commons, were also declared by Mr. P. as parties to the smuggling through of the Canada land company's bill, and he might satisfy these parties of the entire truth of his assertion; Colonel McIntosh,

## P O E T R Y.

### S P R I N G.—B Y M A L C O L M.

Dear as the dove, whose wafting wing  
The green leaf ransomed from the main,  
Thy genial glow, returning Spring!  
Comes to our shores again.  
For thou hast been a wanderer long,  
On many a fair and foreign strand;  
In balm and beauty, sun and song,  
Passing from land to land.

O'er vine-clad hills and classic plains,  
Of glowing climes beyond the deep;  
And by the dim and moldering fane  
Where the dead Caesars sleep:  
And o'er Sierras, brightly blue,  
Where rest our country's fallen brave;  
Smiling through thy sweet teats to strew  
Flower-offerings o'er each grave.

Thou bring'st the blossom to the bee,  
To earth a robe of emerald dye,  
The leaflet to the naked tree,  
And rainbow to the sky:  
I feel thy blest, benign control,  
The pulses of my youth restore,  
Opening the springs of sense and soul,  
To love and joy once more.

Then, while the groves thy garlands twine,  
Thy spirit breathes in flower and tree,  
My heart shall kindle at thy shrine,  
And worship God in thee;  
And in some calm, sequestered spot,  
Whilst listening to thy vocal strain,  
Past griefs shall be a white forget,  
And pleasures bloom again.

### T H E H O L L Y T R E E.—B Y SOUTHEY.

O Reader! hast thou ever stood to see  
The holly tree?  
The eye that contemplates it well perceives  
Its glossy leaves  
Order'd by an intelligence so wise  
As might confound the Atheist's sophistries.  
Below, a circling fence, its leaves are seen  
Wrinkled and keen;  
No grazing cattle through their prickly round  
Can reach to wound;  
But as they grow where nothing is to fear,  
Smooth and unarm'd the painless leaves appear.  
I love to view these things with curious eyes,  
And moralize;  
And in this wisdom of the holly tree  
Can emblem see  
Wherewith perchance to make a pleasant  
One which may profit in the after-time.  
Thus, tho' abroad perchance I might appear  
Harsh and austere,  
To those who on my leisure would intrude  
Reserved and rude,  
Gentle at home amid my friends I'd be,  
Like the high leaves upon the holly tree.  
And should my youth as youth is apt I know  
Some harshness shew,  
All vain asperities I day by day  
Would wear away,  
Till the smooth temper of my age should be  
Like the high leaves upon the holly tree.  
And as when all the summer trees are seen  
So bright and green,  
The holly leaves their fade-less hues display  
Less bright than they;  
But when the bare and wintry woods we see,  
What then so cheerful as the holly tree?  
So serious should my youth appear among  
The thoughtless throng,  
So would I seem among the young and gay  
More grave than they;  
That in my age as cheerful I might be  
As the green winter of the holly tree.

## B I O G R A P H Y.

### D R . S A M U E L J O H N S O N.

Doctor Johnson was born September 7, 1709, in the city of Litchfield, where his father was a bookseller. Having received the elements of a classical education principally at the grammar school of his native place, he was sent at the age of nineteen to Pembroke college, Oxford, by a gentleman who engaged to maintain him there as a companion to his son. After some time, however, this person withdrew his aid, and Johnson having made an ineffectual attempt to subsist on his own resources, found himself obliged to discontinue his residence before obtaining a degree. He had already, however, during the period he spent at the university, obtained a high reputation for scholarship and abilities. For many succeeding years the life of this distinguished luminary of English literature was one of those hard struggles with poverty which learning and genius have so often been called on to sustain. About the time that he left college, namely, in 1731, his father died, leaving scarcely twenty pounds behind him. Thus situated, Johnson was constrained to accept the office of usher at the grammar-school of Market Bosworth. But the treatment to which he was subjected soon forced him to give up this appointment. He now attempted in succession various projects of a literary nature, in order to escape from the greatest indigence. In 1735 he married a Mrs. Porter, the widow of a mercer, who bro't him a fortune of about 800L; and with this money he opened a boarding-school at Edin. But the scheme met with no success. He then determined to set out for London; and here accordingly he arrived in March, seventeen hundred and thirty-seven, accompanied by a young friend, David Garrick, who had been one of his pupils, and who afterwards became the greatest actor that the modern world had seen. The first employment which he obtained was from the proprietors of the Gentleman's Magazine. But the emoluments he derived from this source were very insufficient to afford him a respectable subsistence; and he was often without a shilling to procure him bread during the day, or a lodging wherein to lay his head at night. These difficulties clung to him for a long while, but they did not prevent him from gradually working his way to literary distinction. His reports of parliamentary debates, inserted in the Gentleman's Magazine, which were often almost entirely original compositions of his own, attracted a great deal of notice; but it was not till long afterwards that their authorship was generally known. The year after his arrival in

the metropolis, he published his poem, entitled 'London,' in imitation of the third satire of Juvenal. This production had the honor of being commended in very warm terms by Pope. In seventeen hundred and forty-four appeared his eloquent and striking life of his friend Savage. Three years after he was engaged by an association of booksellers to prepare a new dictionary of the English language. This celebrated work occupied the greater part of his time for seven years, and at last appeared in seventeen hundred and fifty-five, after the money, fifteen hundred guineas, which it had been agreed he should receive for his labour, was all spent. It brought him, however, a large share of public applause, and at once placed his name among the first of the living cultivators of English literature. Meanwhile, even before the appearance of his dictionary, he had by various occasional productions been steadily advancing himself in reputation, although not in wealth. In seventeen hundred and forty-nine he gave to the world his imitation of Juvenal's tenth satire, under the title of 'The vanity of human wishes.' The same year his tragedy of Irene, which he had brought with him when he first came to town, was produced at Drury Lane by his friend Garrick. In March, seventeen hundred and fifty, he commenced the publication of the Rambler, which he continued for two years at the rate of two papers every week, the whole, with the exception of only five numbers, being the production of his own pen. These, and other works, however, failed in relieving him from the pressure of great pecuniary difficulties, as is proved by the fact, that in seventeen hundred and fifty-six he was arrested for a debt of about five pounds, and only obtained his liberty by borrowing the money from a friend. In seventeen hundred and fifty-eight he began a new periodical publication, to which he gave the name of 'The Idler,' and which, like the Rambler, he carried on for about two years. In seventeen hundred and fifty-nine his mother, to whom he was tenderly attached, died at an advanced age; and having gone down to Litchfield to superintend her funeral, he there wrote his beautiful romance of Rasselas in a single week, while his parent lay unburied, in order to obtain the means of defraying the expenses of her interment. This may well be characterized as the finest anecdote that is to be told of Dr. Johnson; for the whole range of biography scarcely records anything more noble or affecting. At last, in seventeen hundred and sixty-two, the crown was advised to bestow on him a pension of 300 pounds per annum; an act of bounty which placed him for the rest of his life in ease and affluence. After this he distinguished himself as much by the brilliancy and power of his conversation in the literary circles and general society which he frequented, as by his labours with his pen; but still he was far from relinquishing authorship. In seventeen hundred and sixty-five appeared a new edition of Shakespeare, in the superintendance of which he had been long engaged, and the splendid preface to which is one of the most celebrated of his productions. In seventeen hundred and seventy three he published the well known account of his 'Journey to the Western Isles of Scotland,' which he had just accomplished in company with his friend Boswell. In seventeen hundred and seventy-five he received the degree of LL.D. from the university of Oxford; and in seventeen hundred and eighty-one he brought to a close the last, and perhaps, upon the whole, the greatest of his works, his 'Lives of the Poets,' in four volumes octavo. He survived this publication only a few years, and having died on the thirteenth of Dec. seventeen hundred and eighty-four, in the seventy sixth year of his age, he was interred with great solemnity in Westminster abbey, in a grave near to that of his friend Garrick. Notwithstanding considerable heat of temper and arrogance of manner, as well as some weak prejudices and singularities by which he was marked, it is impossible to deny that the moral character of Dr. Johnson abounded in noble points, to regard it upon the whole with other feelings than those of admiration and reverence. A scrupulous respect for virtue, evinced both by the language and scope of all his writings, and by the unvarying tenor of his conduct, a lofty scorn of injustice and baseness, a spirit of independence and self reliance which no trials nor sufferings could tame down either to despair or servility, a warm sympathy with human sorrow wheresoever found or howsoever caused, the intrepidity to do a good action in the face even of the world's laugh, and charity in relieving the unfortunate to the utmost verge of his means, and even to his own painful inconvenience, - all these dispositions, based on religious principle, and adorned and crowned by the most fervid piety, are sufficient to cast into the shade far deeper traits of frailty than any with which his nature can fairly be said to have been marked. The question of the intellectual rank properly belonging to Dr. J. has given rise to more difference of opinion. He was certainly neither a very original nor a very subtle thinker; and his eminence indeed, will probably be maintained even by his warmest admirers on the ground rather of his powers of expression than of thought. His poetry rarely ascends beyond the height of rhetoric in rhyme; and his metaphysical and philosophical speculations are throughout extremely common place and unrefined. But in what may be called the art of criticism, the detection of conventional beauties and defects, and the delineation of the merely literary character of a writer's productions, he is a great master.

His style is undoubtedly a bad one in the main; for, to say nothing of his being more Latin than English, & so studiously regular on the principle of mere sonorousness that it almost entirely wants picturesqueness and the other higher qualities which contribute to effective expression, it is suited at best to only one kind of writing, the grave didactic. Still, with all its faults, even this style has great qualities. Its dignity is often very imposing, and its inventor is certainly entitled to the praise of having set the example of a grammatical accuracy and general finish of composition not to be found in the works of our best authors before his time, but which have since been copied by all.

## M O R A L.

[From the Scottish Guardian.]

### M O R A L P R I N C I P L E S T H E S A F E G U A R D O F L I B E R T Y.

Two magistrates of Paris recently made a tour through the United States, and in the course of two years collected important information regarding the statistics of crime and education. In the state of New York, 500,000 children, out of two millions, are at public schools; that is, a fourth part of the population; and 240,000 are annually expended for this purpose. Yet in this state crime increases, and that too, though the means of subsistence and employment are so much more easily obtained than in any other countries. In Connecticut education is still more extended, and nearly a third part of the population is at school. Yet crimes multiply to a frightful extent. The Journal of Education, stating these facts, draws this cautious conclusion: "If knowledge cannot be accused of causing this increase of crime, at least it has not prevented it."

On turning to France, and examining tables of the comparative proportion of instruction in its different departments, during a period of three years, the western and central provinces have been found the most uneducated—fifteen, fourteen, thirteen, twelve, and eight per cent, only being able to read and write; but, according to an essay on the moral statistics of France, presented to the academy of sciences, the minimum of crime is to be found in these uneducated departments, and the maximum in Corsica and in the south eastern provinces, and in Alsace, where nearly half the population can read. The different employments of the population may account for the difference in part; yet still we may again draw the cautious conclusion, that if education has not caused, at least it has not been seen to prevent crime.

The only ascertained moral effect of intellectual education was stated in last March by the lord chancellor in the house of lords. In Russia, where education can scarcely be said to exist, out of 5,800 crimes committed within a certain period, 3,500 were accompanied by violence; while in Pennsylvania, where education is generally diffused, out of 7,400 crimes, only 640 were accompanied by violence, being in the proportion of one twelfth of the whole number, instead of three fifths, as in the former case.

Thus the only ascertained effect of intellectual education on crime is to substitute fraud for force—the cunning of civilization, for the violence of savage life.

Now would even this small change be permanent.

A highly intellectual community without moral principles and the habits of self denial which religion imposes, would only prove a sleeping volcano, ready to awaken every moment, and overthrow those very institutions under which it had been fostered.

To increase the intellectual power,

and enlarge the knowledge, of a man

void of principle, is only to create in him

new desires, to make him restless and dis-

satisfied, hating those that are above him,

and desirous of reducing all to his own

level; and you have but to realize univers-

ally such a state of society, to fill the cup

of the world's guilt and misery to the brim.

What do we say then? Not, certainly,

that education is to be withheld from any

member of society, but that from the infant

school, upwards to the university, it must

be a thorough Christian education, in

which our youth shall be trained in the

ways of virtuous self-control, and piety and

righteousness wrought into the understand-

ing and into the whole habit of man. A

perfunctory religious education will no

longer serve—not mere bible reading, but

bible education. The understanding must

be enlightened, and the heart must be gain-

ed over to the side of truth and righteoun-

ess. In short, the grand aim of education

must become, not merely the formation of

intellectual habits, or the acquisition of sec-

ular knowledge, (as is too exclusively the

case in present times,) but the formation of

the Christian character. Men have hitherto

been prone to take for granted, that it

was only necessary to teach the art of

reading, and before this new power all vice

and error would flee away. These are

dreams of men ignorant of themselves, and

ignorant of our poor nature. Men must be

trained to piety and virtue as they are

trained to any other habits, whether intel-

lectual or physical; and the moral man

must advance contemporaneously with the

intellectual man, else we see no increase

from our increased education, but an in-

creased capacity for evil doing.

France has long sought to establish mor-

al principle on some other basis than that

of Christianity; but she has renounced this

art of criticism, the detection of con-

ventional beauties and defects, and the de-

lineation of the merely literary character of

a writer's productions, he is a great master.

## T H E C H R I S T I A N R E L I G I O N.

If we would learn the value of Christian-  
ity to the world, let us travel in countries  
where the bible is not known, and contrast  
their situation with our own. Go then in-  
to a heathen country, no matter in what  
direction, or at what age of the world, and  
you will find,—

No equality between the sexes. Man  
is stronger than the woman, and therefore  
he has made her his slave, the minister of  
his pleasure. Companionship between hus-  
band and wife is unknown, and the connec-  
tion dissolved at the interest or caprice of

the former.

You will find but little parental or filial

affection. The mother neglects or exposes  
or actually destroys her own child; the  
child grows up to beat its mother or father,  
to neglect them in their old age, and finally

leaves them to perish, unended and unmour-

ned.

You will find no such thing as honesty,  
or truth, or rarely, indeed, in their dealings  
with one another. Supreme selfishness,  
without the least regard to others, regulates  
the conduct of every individual. Legal  
justice is a thing unknown—mercy an at-  
tribute seldom exercised. You will find  
none of those insinuations, which, in Christ-  
endom, adorn human nature, and which  
serve to alleviate so many of its woes—

When you have travelled beyond the influ-  
ence of the bible, you will find no "found-  
ing hospital," no "inmate asylum," no "house  
of refuge;" you will look in vain for the  
"orphan's house," the "sailor's snug harbor,"  
or "retreat" for the blind, the deaf, or the  
poor. Institutions like these are never  
found except by the sides of temples erected  
to the God of the bible.

What shall we say, then, to those men,  
who, incendiary-like, are seeking to de-  
stroy the influence of the Christian religion,  
and who would fain persuade us to burn  
up our bibles, and pull down our churches?  
What else shall we call them than enemies  
of themselves and their kind? What would  
these men have? Even were there no  
hereafter—even though existence terminat-  
ed at death—though the bible were a lie,  
or a fable, this life a dream and the next a  
fancied vision—we say, even though the  
enemies of the bible were capable of prov-  
ing all this to a demonstration, what would  
be gained to the human race by doing so?

These are questions which the infidels  
and free-thinkers of the age dare not ask  
themselves; or if any ask, they dare not  
answer them, for then would they stand  
self-convicted of conspiring against the  
good order, the peace and happiness of so-  
ciety. Deluded men! why seek to accom-  
plish what, at best, would only tend to en-  
bitter the short-lived joys of earth; but  
which, if you would listen to the voice of  
reason and conscience, they would tell you  
would send a man hopeless to his grave,  
and beyond that shut him up in the prison  
of despair.

## A G R I C U L T U R A L.

From the New England Farmer.

### S H E E P.

A very considerable portion of the land  
in New England is rough, stony, and hilly,  
and must remain in pasture or woodland  
in consequence of its being intractable to  
the plough. When such lands have been  
grazed by neat cattle or horses for a num-  
ber of years, they become nearly worthless,  
and are often abandoned by their owners  
for the more fertile regions of the West.  
Some sheep farmers, however, assert that  
pastures, in which sheep have been kept  
for years in succession, have improved, and  
now yield more and better food than they  
did before sheep were admitted. It is to  
be observed that the ploughings were re-  
peated six times, which must unnecessarily  
have swelled the expense. In eighteen  
hundred and thirty two, Mr. Scott trenched  
44 acres with like success. His account  
of expense and profit stands thus:

By average of 44 bushels per acre, at seven shillings,	L15 8 0

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